

James B. Becker

CONSULTING ENGINEERS

May 5, 1983

US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



412264

Mr. Richard A. Volonino
Central Landfill Manager
SCA Services, Inc.
1838 North Broadway Street
St. Louis, MO 63102

Re: St. Clair County, Illinois
East St. Louis/SCA-Milam Landfill
May 5, 1983 Site Inspection

RECEIVED
MAY 24 1983
ILL. E.P.A. - D.L.P.C.
STATE OF ILLINOIS

Dear Mr. Volonino:

I made an inspection this p.m., May 5, 1983, Thursday, to again review the subject site and evaluate the conditions as well as make recommendations concerning the conditions and operation of this landfill location:

"SUMMARY & RECOMMENDATIONS"

1. Upon arrival at the entrance of the landfill this afternoon, I find again some debris in the vicinity of the gate. I have noticed practically at every inspection that I have made, that there has been an excessive amount of debris such as pallets, boxes of trash and other debris at the gate, either just on the public road side or on the inside on your property here at the entrance to the landfill. Predicated on this finding, I would highly recommend that you have some signs painted alerting people to the fact that this is private property, no dumping is allowed, people will be arrested and prosecuted if found dumping illegally in the vicinity of the entrance, and also possibly obtain the services of some roving private police service to see that possibly some of these people be arrested and let them all know that you will not tolerate this illegal dumping. I say this because it does leave anyone coming to your landfill with a bad first impression here at the landfill. I am sure that this is not material that is being put there by the SCA employees, and probably not by any of your regular landfill customers, but by persons who wish to just dump there and not pay the dumping fees that you charge for the loads that they bring to the landfill. To summarize this I would best summarize it by saying that some prevention might be the best cure for this condition. I am sure that the signs will only be a minor cost to your overall

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operational cost, but could render a fantastic benefit if we can reduce this unsightly dumping in the vicinity of the gate.

2. Equipment operating

There is one TEREX Dozer helping to push trash and spread cover material, one REX Trashmaster-370 compacting the trash, and a Highlift hauling cover material that has been stockpiled on the top of the fill to the present operating face.

3. Location of Operation

At the present time the dumping and filling operation is located just about 500 feet from the pay station in a south-east direction to the east of the access road. In fact, it is in the same vicinity that the operation was at the time of the last inspection approximately one week ago. I am sure that the reason for still being located here even though your operating area is sort of small and growing smaller each day, is that it gives you the best access through the very inclement weather that we have had over the past four to five weeks.

4. Description of Operation

At the present time the equipment that was mentioned in Section 2 above is operating in an efficient manner by both pieces of the TEREX Dozer and the REX Trashmaster compacting trash, as well as helping spread cover material this p.m. I find the Highlift carrying approximately a 2 1/2 yard bucket full of cover material from the south side of the landfill, I would say approximately 500 to 700 yards, to the operating face of this material, along with material that is being hauled from off site being used to cover the trash as it is compacted. It is my feeling that the hauling with the Highlift is very uneconomical, but I am sure can be justified from the standpoint that adequate material off site is hard to obtain due to the inclement weather at this time. I would highly recommend that as soon as adequate cover material can be obtained and trucked in from off site, the operation of the Highlift in the manner it is being operated be ceased because it is very expensive and uneconomical.

5. Traffic Movement - Face of Landfill

The traffic movement is relatively good, with a minor face that we have opened somewhere between 40 to 60 feet wide, and having very good compacted base to dump on the trucks appear to be getting in and out in a minimum of time.

6. Housekeeping and General Landfill Appearance

This section appears approximately the same as I found on the last report last month, the appearance being relative to the inclement weather, but taking all of the factors into consideration, it appears to be in acceptable condition.

7. Review of Conditions - Phase I-A

The Phase I-A remains in the same condition it did as far back as my reports of January and February with only additional erosion taking place on the north and east slopes of this area.

8. Ponding of Water in Landfill Area

At this time there appears to be a minimum amount of ponding, since we have had a few days of dry weather, and it appears that some steps have been taken to reduce the ponding that we found here last month.

9. Cover Material on Landfill Site

At the present time it appears that less than 1,000 yards of cover material are available for use here at the site. Again I must say we need additional cover material, and I hope you can see fit as soon as the weather returns to normal condition to obtain additional cover material and stockpile same.

10. Leachate Breakouts

There appears to be some small breakouts along the north face of this fill in Phase II-A, and should be treated immediately with additional cover material and compaction in the areas where these small leachate breaks appear.

11. General Appearance of Landfill

The landfill is in approximately the same condition it was upon our last visit last month. Again, this being relative to the weather we have had in the past 4 to 6 weeks, and I am sure that as soon as we get some dry weather, your efforts will be concentrated on recompacting some of the areas in Section II-A as well as putting additional cover over areas that have been eroded due to heavy rains and handling all drainage problems and ponding areas in a sound and acceptable manner.

12. Roadway Conditions

The roadway being as short as it has been over the last few weeks, relative to the operating face, is in good condition

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and I am sure that efforts must be started in the next few days or weeks to get an adequate roadway back to the higher level so that when your operation moves to the higher level you will be able to have access for your trucks and customers with a minimum amount of problems.

13. Roadway Drainage

At this time the roadway drainage, total roadway being less than 700 feet in length, appears adequate.

In closing, I would strongly recommend that you adhere to my recommendation for policing the area of entrance to the landfill, primarily the area where your gate is at the joining point of your roadway and the public access. Also, prepare for some hard and long working periods when weather permits on the upper level and north face of Section II-A to provide additional compaction and cover to compensate for the past 3 weeks of very inclement and rainy weather.

Very truly yours,


James B. Becker,
Registered Professional Engineer,
State of Illinois
License No. 62-20369

JBB:ad

cc: Charles Embe
Kenneth Mensing ✓